

From: Chris Reade
To: 'microsoft.atr(a)usdoj.gov','attorney.general(a)po...
Date: 1/8/02 9:33am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

To Whom It May Concern:

As a partner in a technology consulting firm I work with the Microsoft products every day. And as a professional in the field I must urge you do more in this settlement. I beleive that Microsoft is a mean-spirited company whose only interest in the consumer's welfare is how much money can be extracted from them.

Given that Microsoft made a mockery of their previous consent decree and is likely to do the same with any conduct remedy I would like to register my support for the following settlement: Force the company to reveal the entire source-code for every release of the operating system. This may sound like a weak penalty, but I think you would find that it is the harshest penalty short of breaking the company up.

Although the company makes a great deal of money from Office and other products, Windows is the core that makes it all tick. It is my belief (and I am in no sense alone here) that Microsoft has code inside of Windows that favors the company's products and enables its programmers to leverage the system to the company's benefit. Further, I beleive that many other trust infractions would be uncovered if the operating system was released open-source. Additionally, it would truly make it possible for third parties to write future software on parity with the company's own software.

Given that conduct remedies are not likely to succeed and that breakup is not on the table, I beleive that licensing the source code would have the greatest effect.

Sincerely,
Christopher Reade

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